



Great Lakes Legislative Caucus

July 11, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As members of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus (GLLC), we are writing to request swift action in the federal government's efforts to help to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic nuisance species in the Great Lakes. The GLLC is a nonpartisan, binational organization of state and provincial legislators representing the eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces that are home to the Great Lakes. One of our principal goals is the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes, with aquatic nuisance species being one of our greatest concerns.

In 2010, the U.S. Army of Engineers (USACE), Rock Island District, initiated the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS). As part of the GLMRIS, the USACE undertook the Brandon Road Study to assess the viability of establishing a single point to control the one-way, upstream transfer of aquatic nuisance species from the Mississippi River basin into the Great Lakes basin near the Brandon Road Lock and Dam located in Joliet, Illinois.

Since April 6, 2015, the USACE has been working on the Brandon Road Project Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP). The USACE publicly confirmed February 28, 2017, as the release date for the TSP. That report is now being delayed instead of being released for public comment and review. The issue of the introduction of invasive species – and most importantly, Asian carp – into the Great Lakes ecosystem is a ticking time bomb. Every day we wait increases the likelihood of severe damage to our Great Lakes ecosystem and economy.

Combined with the initial indication that your administration will eliminate funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the delay in completing the Brandon Road Project TSP puts at grave risk the largest surface freshwater system in the world and an economic driver for our entire nation. Therefore, the undersigned members of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus request that the TSP intended for release earlier this year be published for comment in the *Federal Register* without further delay.

Thank you for taking the time to understand our position. We would appreciate a response to help us understand where you stand on this important issue for the Great Lakes region.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Lisa Janairo of the GLLC staff at 920.458.5910 or ljanairo@csg.org.

Sincerely,



Representative Cory Mason, Wisconsin



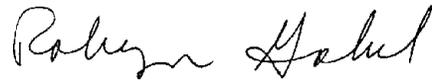
Senator Darwin Booher, Michigan



Senator Julie A. Morrison, Illinois



Representative Laura Fine, Illinois



Representative Robyn Gabel, Illinois



Representative Sonya Marie Harper, Illinois



Representative Rita Mayfield, Illinois



Representative Juliana Stratton, Illinois



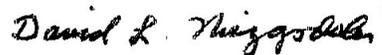
Senator Mike Bohacek, Indiana



Senator Ed Charbonneau, Indiana



Senator Rick Niemeyer, Indiana



Senator David L. Niezgodski, Indiana



Senator Karen R. Tallian, Indiana



Representative John Bartlett, Indiana



Representative B. Patrick Bauer, Indiana



Representative Earl Harris, Jr., Indiana



Representative Linda Lawson, Indiana



Representative Scott Pelath, Indiana



Senator Steve Bieda, Michigan



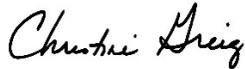
Senator Goeff Hansen, Michigan



Senator Wayne A. Schmidt, Michigan



Representative Winnie Brinks, Michigan



Representative Christine Greig, Michigan



Representative Donna Lasinski, Michigan



Representative Steve Marino, Michigan



Representative Andy Schor, Michigan



Representative Mary Whiteford, Michigan



Senator Ann H. Rest, Minnesota



Senator Charles W. Wiger, Minnesota



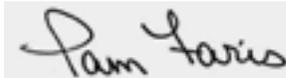
Senator Vincent Gregory, Michigan



Senator Ken Horn, Michigan



Senator Dale Zorn, Michigan



Representative Pam Faris, Michigan



Representative Kevin Hertel, Michigan



Representative Dan Lauwers, Michigan



Representative David Maturen, Michigan



Representative Curt VanderWall, Michigan



Senator Tony Lourey, Minnesota



Senator David H. Senjem, Minnesota



Representative Rob Ecklund, Minnesota

Representative Sandra Masin, Minnesota

Representative Liz Olson, Minnesota

Representative Jennifer Schultz, Minnesota

Representative Linda Slocum, Minnesota

Representative JoAnn Ward, Minnesota

Assemblyman Angelo J. Morinello, New York

Senator Cliff Hite, Ohio

Representative John Patterson, Ohio

Representative Kent Smith, Ohio

Representative Patrick J. Harkins,
Pennsylvania

Representative Curtis G. Sonney,
Pennsylvania

Senator Janet Bewley, Wisconsin

Senator Chris Larson, Wisconsin

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Senator Lena C. Taylor, Wisconsin

Representative Jimmy Anderson, Wisconsin

Representative Gary A. Hebl, Wisconsin

Representative Nick Milroy, Wisconsin

Representative Tod Ohnstad, Wisconsin

Representative Mark Spreitzer, Wisconsin

Representative Lisa Subeck, Wisconsin

Representative Dana Wachs, Wisconsin



Representative JoCasta Zamarripa, Wisconsin



Representative Josh Zepnick, Wisconsin



Senator Donne Trotter, Illinois

cc: Director Mick Mulvaney, OMB
Members of Congress from the Great Lakes States